

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 8, and 24 are amended without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-3, 6-7, 11-23 and 25-26 are cancelled.

Rejection of Claims 1, 4-5, 9-10, 24, 27-28 and 30-31 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-5, 9-10, 24, 27-28 and 30-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Epstein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,343) ("Epstein et al.") in view of Kanevsky et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,407) ("Kanevsky et al."). Applicants have responded by amending claims 1, 8, and 24 to recite additional limitations not found in Epstein et al. or Kanevsky et al.

Regarding claim 1, the new limitation recites "tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective identity and an indication of certainty of the respective determined identity of the caller for each respective voice mail message." The indication of certainty may be obtained or determined, for example, through use of one or more thresholds to determine how certain the match is between a caller and a given voice model. Inasmuch as neither Epstein et al. nor Kanevsky et al. teach recording an indication of certainty of the determined identity, much less tagging voicemail messages with the indication of certainty, Applicants submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 4-5 and 9-10 depend from claim 1 which, as discussed above, contains a limitation not found in Epstein et al. or Kanevsky et al. Similarly, Applicants submit that claims 4-5 and 9-10 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 8 has been amended similarly to claim 1 to recite "tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective identity and an indication of certainty of the respective determined identity of the caller for each respective voice mail message." Inasmuch as neither Epstein et al. nor Kanevsky et al. teach recording an indication of certainty of the determined identity, much less tagging voicemail messages with the indication of certainty, Applicants submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 24 has been amended similarly to claims 1 and 8 to recite "means for tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective identity and an indication of certainty of the respective determined identity of the speaker for each respective voice mail message." Inasmuch as neither Epstein et al. nor Kanevsky et al. teach recording an indication of certainty of the determined identity, much less tagging voicemail messages with the indication of certainty, Applicants submit that claim 24 is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 27-28 and 30-31 depend from claim 24 which, as discussed above, contains a limitation not found in Epstein et al. or Kanevsky et al. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 27-28 and 30-31 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants do not acquiesce that one of skill in the art would combine these references and reserve the right to argue as such in a future office action.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections and objections, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge or credit the **Novak, Druce & Quigg, LLP, Account No. 14-1437** for any deficiency or overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:  _____

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